

Application No.: 10/619,773

Docket No.: 60680-1802

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A gasket comprising:

a base sheet of substantially contiguous metal material having at least one aperture bounded by an edge of said base sheet;

one or more coined angles formed at said edge of said base sheet;

an elastomeric material disposed on said one or more coined angles and said edge of said base sheet; and

wherein said one or more coined angles increase a surface area of said base sheet exposed to said elastomeric material, thereby increasing bonding strength between said base sheet and said elastomeric material.

2. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said one or more coined angles includes a texture to further increase the bonding strength between said base sheet and said elastomeric material.

3. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said elastomeric material disposed on said one or more coined angles forms a sealing bead.

4. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said base sheet is substantially thin.

5. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 4, wherein said base sheet has a thickness of approximately 1.0 mm.

6. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said coined angles extend radially inwardly from said edge and are integrally joined to said base sheet.

7. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said base sheet is generally planar.

8. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said elastomeric material comprises silicone rubber.

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9. (Original) A gasket according to Claim 1, wherein said coined angles are generally symmetric about an axis, A, of said base sheet.

10. (Original) A method of manufacturing a gasket comprising the steps of:  
forming one or more coined angles at an edge of a base sheet of substantially contiguous metal material;  
disposing an elastomeric material on the one or more coined angles and on the edge of the base sheet;  
whereby the one or more coined angles increase a surface area of the base sheet exposed to the elastomeric material, thereby increasing bonding strength between the base sheet and the elastomeric material.

11. (Original) A method of manufacturing a gasket according to Claim 10, further comprising the step of applying a texture to an outer surface of the one or more coined angles.

12. (New) A gasket comprising:  
a base sheet of substantially contiguous metal material having at least one aperture bounded by an edge of said base sheet;  
one or more coined angles formed at said edge of said base sheet, wherein said coined angles are defined by a gradual reduction in thickness toward said edge of said base sheet; and  
an elastomeric material disposed on said one or more coined angles and said edge of said base sheet;  
wherein said coined angles wherein said one or more coined angles increase a surface area of said base sheet exposed to said elastomeric material, thereby increasing bonding strength between said base sheet and said elastomeric material.